

# ANNUAL REPORT

for 1947

TO

EVESHAM RURAL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

BY

J. J. MURRAY, M.B., D.P.H.  
(District Medical Officer of Health)

B. LI. STEPHENSON

B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.T.P.I.,  
M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.I.

(Chief Sanitary Inspector)



# TO THE Evesham Rural District Council

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the health of your District:—

### VITAL STATISTICS

Registrar-General's Population Estimate—15,680

#### BIRTHS

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Legitimate	154	139	293
Illegitimate	3	7	10
	157	146	303

#### STILL BIRTHS

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	4	2	6

Birth Rate		(1946)
per 1,000 of estimated resident population	19.3	19.5
Still Birth Rate		(1946)
per 1,000 total (live and still) births	19.4	25.8

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
DEATHS	77	89	166
Death Rate			(1946)
per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	10.6	12.0

Deaths from Puerperal causes:—

Deaths from Puerperal causes.				RATES PER 1,000		TOTAL
				(LIVE AND STILL)		BIRTHS
Puerperal Sepsis						
Other Puerperal causes				Nil		
Total						
				MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Deaths of infants under one year ... ..				2	5	7
Deaths of legitimate infants ... ..				2	4	6
Deaths of illegitimate infants ... ..				—	1	1
<i>Death Rates of Infants under One Year</i>						(1946)
All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..					23	26
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..					11	17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					100	98
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..					26	35
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..					Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..					1	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..					Nil	Nil

Comparison with some of the figures for the whole country is as follows:—

	England & Wales	District	District
	1947	1947	1946
Birth Rate	20.5	19.3	19.5
Death Rate	12.0	10.6	12.0
Infant Mortality Rate	41	23	26

The following table gives the causes of death during 1947:—

<i>Cause of Death</i>	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	3	5	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	1	2
Syphilitic Disease ... ..	—	—	—
Influenza ... ..	1	—	1
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Ac. Infectious Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—
Cancer — Total cases ... ..	10	16	26
Cancer of Bucc. cav. and Oesoph (M)			
Uterus (F) ... ..	1	1	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	—	1	1
Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	3	3
Cancer of all other sites ... ..	9	11	20
Diabetes ... ..	1	2	3
Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions ... ..	9	14	23
Heart Disease ... ..	23	19	42
Other Dis. of Circulatory System ...	1	8	9
Bronchitis ... ..	1	4	5
Pneumonia ... ..	1	3	4
Other resp. diseases ... ..	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... ..	2	—	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	—	—	—
Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Nephritis ... ..	1	—	1
Puerperal and Post-Abort. Sepsis ...	—	—	—
Other maternal causes ... ..	—	—	—
Premature Birth ... ..	—	1	1
Con. mal., Birth inj., Inf. Dis. ... ..	2	1	3
Suicide ... ..	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	3	—	3
Other violent causes ... ..	3	—	3
All other causes ... ..	14	12	26
Totals ...	78	89	167

The Birth Rate is lower than that for the country as a whole, but the Death Rate compares favourably, and the very low infantile death rate of 23 as compared with the all-over rate of 41 and, with the 1946 district rate of 26, is very satisfactory.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Evesham Isolation Hospital deals with cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria only, as there is no cubicle accommodation, thus necessitating the removal of cases suffering from other infections to Bromsgrove, Worcester or Malvern Hospitals.

Shortage of staff is a difficulty which causes considerable limitation in the number of beds available.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

### *Water Supplies*

A piped water supply is available to 3,726 houses out of a total of 4,576, leaving 850 houses to be supplied in the future. The Coventry Corporation Scheme—drawing water from the River Severn—will, by arrangement, supply a considerable proportion of these latter houses when put in operation.

About 100 houses are supplied by standpipes, but a scheme—already advanced—for the village of Ashton-under-Hill will, when completed, result in about 90 per cent. of the houses enjoying a piped supply. It is hoped to supply one outlying district—Cookhill—by arrangement with East Worcester Water Co.

Samples are taken monthly and are uniformly satisfactory, both chemically and bacteriologically. The results of well water analyses vary considerably. There is no plumbo-solvency in this area.

### *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal*

The report of the Council's Consultant Engineer deals with ten villages, comprising a total of 1,460 houses, with a population of 5,000, and recommends, together with the necessary pipe-laying, the provision of five new disposal plants and the extension of one already in existence.



## HOUSING

In the post-war period 32 Council houses have been built, with a total of 972 houses erected since the first war. The house building programme has been limited only by force of adverse circumstances. Up to June, 1948, another 50 houses have been erected and occupied.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER COMESTIBLES

There is one licensed slaughter-house in the area, for pigs only. Regularly inspected, it is maintained in a satisfactory state.

The amounts of food found to be unfit for human use and condemned will be found in the attached Sanitary Report.

Samples under Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were taken by the Inspector of Weights and Measures. There are six premises registered for the sale of ice-cream and all are satisfactory. Twenty-two visits were paid in connection with the supervision of food-storage premises.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### *Milk Supply*

Number of Registered Dairy Farms	...	...	...	...	110
Number of Registered Retailers	...	...	...	...	46
Number of T.T. Milk Producers	...	...	...	...	16
Number of Accredited Milk Producers	...	...	...	...	10
Number of Supplementary Licences for Retailing of Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	6
Number of Samples taken by County Council for graded Milks	...	...	...	...	99
Number found unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	10

### *New Licences granted by County Council:*

Accredited

2

Tuberculin tested

2

# **FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES** *Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors*

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	14	5	None	None
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	52	16	None	None
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

No defects were found.

## **OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES**

(Section III. of 1937 Act)

There were no instances of this during the year.

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Notified Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1947.

			Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	7	2	—
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	...	1	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	14	—	4
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	3	—	—
Measles ... ..	...	...	107	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	31	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	—	—	—
Anterior Polio-myelitis ... ..	...	...	7	5	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	—	—	—
Typhoid ... ..	...	...	—	—	—

# ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES CASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR — 1947

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Typhoid	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Anterior Polio-myelitis and Polio-enceph.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—
1—2 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	3	—	—	2
3—4 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	22	9	—	1	—
5—10 years ...	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	61	13	—	—	1
11—15 years ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
16—20 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
21—35 years ...	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
36—45 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
46—65 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	7	—	—	1	—	14	—	3	107	31	—	1	7

## DIPHTHERIA

No cases were notified during the year. Only two cases were notified during 1945-6. There were no deaths.

## WHOOPIING COUGH AND MEASLES

There was one death in a child aged four months from Whooping Cough, out of 31 cases notified.

A large number of Measles cases are recorded, the majority of those attacked being children of from 5—7 years. There were no deaths.

## SCARLET FEVER

Seven cases were notified, being generally of a mild type, all recovered without any sequelae.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The table below records the work done, together with totals, since the scheme began.

			0—4 years	5—14 years	Total
1947 ...	...		137	14	151
1940—47 ...	...	A total of 1,643 children immunised.			



A very large number, it is estimated, have been immunised by private practitioners.

It is thought that approximately 85% of the children aged 14 and under have been protected in this area.

Re-inforcing doses are given at school to those who were immunised in infancy, on entering school and at the age of eight.

No schools were closed due to infectious disease.

### TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of the 11 new cases of Tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the area during 1947:—

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary M.	F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	F.	Pulmonary M.	F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	...	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
15—24 years	...	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—34 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
35—44 years	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—54 years	...	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	1
55—64 years	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	2	5	—	4	3	5	1	1

Number of deaths from non-notified Tuberculosis ... .. 2

Total number of Tuberculosis deaths ... .. 10

The urgent need is, of course, for housing provision, the satisfaction of which is only limited by present shortages.

As far as statistics measure, there are no adverse changes in the vital figures as compared with pre-war reports. It may be assumed, therefore, that in general, the standard of public health is at any rate not appreciably lowered.

I am indebted to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their kind assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. J. MURRAY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

1st November, 1948.

# Evesham Rural District Council

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1947

### *Staff*

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

B. LL. STEPHENSON, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.T.P.I.,  
M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

D. C. THOMPSON, A.R.San.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

D. E. BERRY, A.R.San.I.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Evesham Rural District Council:*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1947:—

### WATER SUPPLY

The piped water supplies were sufficient for the needs of the villages served. During the latter part of the summer, Bickmarsh and villages in the northern part of the district, dependent upon wells, became short of water and were supplied as far as possible from tanks filled from the piped supply and carted by the Council.

All the waters from public supplies were analysed at regular intervals and were satisfactory.

A Reservation Notice was served on the Coventry Corporation asking for 120,000 gallons of water daily for the Council's use to supply the northern area. The approval of the Ministry of Health is awaited.

Negotiations have taken place with the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company and when these are concluded it is hoped to supply the Cookhill area with a piped water supply from the Company's mains. A supply of up to 25,000 gallons per day is asked for and this amount should normally become available within two years.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Major A. H. S. Waters, the Council's Consulting Engineer, has made a report concerning the sewerage and sewage disposal in the parishes of Pebworth, Church Honeybourne, Cow Honeybourne, Cleeve Prior, North and Middle Littleton, South Littleton, Offenham, Aldington, Badsey and Bretforton.

### REFUSE REMOVAL

House refuse is collected fortnightly from every village.

This programme has been adhered to although there were unavoidable delays due to the weather, labour shortage and the breakdown of lorries.

Salvage is still urgently needed and a valuable amount has been collected by the Council's vehicles.

### CESSPOOL EMPTYING

The Contract Gully Cleansing Service visited this district in April and again in July and October. The vehicle stays in the district for approximately three weeks once every three months and besides emptying most of the cesspools owned by the Council, many people have taken advantage of this service to have their own cesspools cleansed.

The cost of emptying a cesspool is about 30s. and the Council pay half this cost where the private individual concerned has already been paying a sewerage rate. In other cases, the Council bear one-third of the cost.

### HOUSING

The following table shows that 972 houses have been erected by the Council up to the 31st December, 1947:—

Parish	Completed Pre-War	During War	Post-War	Total
Aldington ...	8	—	—	8
Ashton-under-Hill ...	24	—	—	24
Aston Somerville ...	6	—	—	6
Badsey ...	76	—	6	82
Beckford ...	16	—	8	24
Bretforton ...	56	12	10	78
Broadway ...	240	—	—	240
Childswickham ...	14	4	—	18
Church Honeybourne ...	30	4	—	34
Church Lench ...	12	—	—	12
Cleeve Prior ...	12	—	—	12
<i>Carried forward</i>	494	20	24	538

## HOUSING — *continued*

Parish		Completed Pre-War	During War	Post-War	Total
<i>Brought forward</i>		494	20	24	538
Cow Honeybourne	...	34	—	—	34
Harvington	... ..	48	—	4	52
Hinton-on-the-Green	...	6	10	—	16
Inkberrow	... ..	22	—	—	22
North & Middle Littleton		46	—	—	46
Norton and Lenchwick	...	36	—	—	36
Offenham	... ..	58	—	—	58
Pebworth	... ..	42	—	4	46
Rous Lench	... ..	12	—	—	12
Sedgeberrow	... ..	29	—	—	29
South Littleton	... ..	43	4	—	47
Wickhamford	... ..	36	—	—	36
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	...	906	34	32	972
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The following Council houses are in course of construction:—

Badsey	... ..	46
Beckford	... ..	12
Broadway	... ..	22
Childswickham	... ..	4
Cleeve Prior	... ..	10
Pebworth	... ..	6
Kemerton	... ..	10
		<hr/>
Total	...	110
		<hr/>

## HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

There were nearly 800 applicants on the waiting list for Council houses at the end of the year. These applications are dealt with by this department and as many as possible are visited to check up on information asked for on the application form, before tenants are selected.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Slaughtering is still done centrally and in this district only one slaughterhouse is in use. This is used only part-time for the killing of pigs for private individuals.



# SANITARY WORK COMPLETED IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947

Infectious Diseases, etc.	Visits to houses on account of notifiable disease ... ..	10																
	Houses disinfected after notifiable disease	5																
	Other houses disinfected ... ..	4																
Housing	Houses erected: (a) By Local Authority ... (b) By Private Enterprise ...	26 29																
	1. (a) No. of houses visited in connection with housing defects ... ..	188																
	(b) No. of houses inspected under Rural Housing Survey ... ..	35																
	2. No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit after informal action ... ..	7																
	3. Public Health Act, 1936. (a) No. of dwellings in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs or defects remedied ... ..	26																
	(b) No. of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after Notice by (a) The Owner ... ..	13																
	(b) Local Authority in default of Owner ... ..	—																
	4. Housing Act, 1936, Sections 11 and 13. (a) No. of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	4																
	(b) No. of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—																
Moveable Dwellings	No. of visits made in respect of moveable dwellings ... ..	30																
	No. of Licences to erect, station or use moveable dwellings granted ... ..	12																
	No. of applications for Licences refused ... ..	2																
House Drainage	No. of House Drains tested ... ..	44																
	No. of visits in connection with house drainage ... ..	53																
	No. of private cesspools cleansed ... ..	145																
Water Closets	No. of privy or pail conversions including additional W.C.s ... ..	36																
	No. of defective W.C.s remedied ... ..	1																
Water Supply	No. of samples of water sent for analysis ... ..	95																
Slaughterhouses	No. in district now in use ... ..	1																
	No. of inspections ... ..	8																
Milk	No. of registered dairy farms in the area ... ..	110																
	Total number of Retailers in district ... ..	46																
	No. of Licences under Milk (Special Designations) Order:—																	
	<table><tr><td></td><td>Pasteurised</td><td>Accredited</td><td>T.T.</td></tr><tr><td>Bottlers ..</td><td>—</td><td>—</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Retailers ..</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Producers ..</td><td>—</td><td>10</td><td>16</td></tr></table>		Pasteurised	Accredited	T.T.	Bottlers ..	—	—	2	Retailers ..	6	4	10	Producers ..	—	10	16	
	Pasteurised	Accredited	T.T.															
Bottlers ..	—	—	2															
Retailers ..	6	4	10															
Producers ..	—	10	16															
	Approximate No. of milking cows in district	1442																
	No. of inspections ... ..	20																



Food	Amount voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption: Meat — 1 Pig's Carcase (202 lbs.) 1 Lamb's Carcase (47 lbs.) ... Other foodstuffs — 330 lbs. ... ... Cases of animals affected with Tuberculosis — Pigs ... ..	1
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	No. of visits in connection with the destruction of Rats and Mice ... ..	15
Sanitary Notices	No. of Informal Notices served ... .. No. of Informal Notices complied with ... .. No. of Statutory Notices served ... .. No. of Statutory Notices complied with ... ..	19 10 11 7

I am,

Yours obediently,

B. LL. STEPHENSON,  
*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

15th March, 1948.



